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JUN 27 11 PM 1967
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
RSIAN ANALYSIS BRANCH

FROM : AmEmbassy ATHENS

DATE: June 26, 1967

SUBJECT : Labor Minister LEKKAS Outlines the Government's Social-Labor Policy

REF :

RDS☐or EDC☐ E.O. ☐
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6 MAY 1982

Minister of Labor Lekkas outlined the Government's social-labor policy at a press conference which was held June 16, 1967. Replying to a series of questions, Lekkas made the following points:

1. The government is pro-labor and will honor its commitments to the ILO, the Council of Europe and the OECD.

2. Minimum daily wages and monthly salaries set by the General Collective Agreement of February 1967 will not be increased. Some adjustment on the salaries of certain classes of employees will be considered.

3. Prices will be maintained at the present level.

4. No legal changes will be made in the collective bargaining and compulsory arbitration systems now in operation. Proposed modifications are intended to liberalize institutional procedures.

5. The Committee on the Codification of Labor Laws will be reorganized to speed up the completion of the code.

6. The Government accepts the principle of equal pay for equal work and is studying the draft of ILO Convention Number 100 and its possible social, economic and legal ramifications for Greece in the event the Government should decide to ratify the Convention. At any rate, the principle of equal pay for equal work is already being applied in Greece for government, bank and public legal entities' employees.

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Drafted by: POL:AVelletri;msp

Classification Approved by: POL:KWBrock

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7. The Government plans to review the existing social insurance system under the Social Insurance Institute (IKA) and other private insurance funds to achieve the following goals:

a. Coverage for all workers.

b. Simplification of claim processing.

c. Introduction of sound actuarial norms.

d. Merger of various private insurance funds to reduce administrative costs and provide better service to the insured.

e. Establishment of insurance courts, if required, to settle disputes over insurance claims.

f. Reorganization of the Labor Hearth Fund.

g. A speed-up in the construction of labor housing - 9,000 new units by the end of 1968 - and greater financial assistance to workers for home building.

ANSCHUETZ